



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. II. MAY AND JUNE, 1844. No. 3.

Stated Meeting, May 7, 1844.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY.

Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Regents of the University of the State of New York. Albany: 1844. From the Regents.

A System of Mineralogy. By James D. Dana, A. M. Second Edition, pp. 633. 8vo. New York and London: 1844. From the Author.

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. IV., No. 29. January to April, 1844. From the Society.

Almanach der Königlichen bayerischen, Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Munchen. Munich, 1843. From the Academy.

A letter was read from the Rev. William Herbert, dated Spofforth, April 2d, 1844, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

The Chairman read a letter from Dr. Edmund Ravenel, dated Charleston, 26th of March, 1844, in reference to some specimens of fossils from the Cretaceous strata of South Carolina, sent by him with descriptions for publication.

The specimens were exhibited, and the descriptions read;

and on motion referred to the following Committee : Mr. Phillips, Dr. Morton, and Mr. Conrad.

Descriptions of new species of African Reptiles.

By EDWARD HALLOWELL, M. D.*

Genus EUPREPIS, Dum. and Bibron.

E. Blandingii. The head is of moderate size, triangular, narrow, flattened above; the snout is somewhat prolonged and rounded in front; the plates upon the upper surface of the head, as well as those upon the sides are perfectly smooth; the rostral plate is large, pentagonal, presenting an obtuse angle at its summit; the nasal plates are of moderate size, triangular, rounded posteriorly; the supero-nasal are narrow, oblong, in contact with each other; the inter-nasal plate is larger, presenting the form of a lozenge with its lateral angles truncated, the posterior angle is acute, the anterior obtuse; it is in contact in front with the two supero-nasal plates, its anterior angle not reaching quite so far as the rostral; the fronto-nasal are of moderate size, sub-pentagonal, their lateral and inferior margins are in contact with the superior margin of the two frenal plates; the freno-nasal plate is small, triangular; the first of the frenal plates is oblong-quadrilateral; the second, which is much the larger of the two, is pentagonal; the frontal plate is pentagonal, much broader in front, rounded posteriorly; the fronto-parietal are oblong pentagonal, their anterior margins, or those which embrace the posterior margins of the frontal, are the smallest; they are in contact laterally with the two supra-orbital, and posteriorly with the parietal and inter-parietal plates; the parietals are large, pentagonal; the inter-parietal is larger than either of the fronto-parietals, and terminates posteriorly in an obtuse point; there are four supra-orbital and two freno-orbital plates; the supra-orbital are four in number, their exterior margin is bordered by a row of seven small oblong quadrangular plates; immediately behind them is a small rhomboidal plate, the upper half of which is received between the posterior supra-or-

* This paper was reported for publication in the last number, but was necessarily deferred.

bitar and the parietal plate ; there is no occipital, but immediately behind the parietal are two oblong scales, much larger than the rest, presenting numerous striæ, or elevated lines upon their posterior margin ; the labial plates are seven in number, of these the fifth is most remarkable, it is regularly quadrilateral, oblong, and much larger than either of the others, forming of itself one-half of the inferior margin of the orbit ; the second, third and fourth, are rhomboidal ; the first is irregularly quadrilateral ; the sixth and seventh are pentagonal ; the ear is of moderate size ; its inferior margin is bordered with numerous small granules, and there are two or three small scales in front ; the scales upon the body are hexagonal, more or less rounded posteriorly ; those upon the back, sides, and tail, present fine carinæ upon their surface, all of which are very distinct ; here and there a smaller one may be observed at each extremity of a scale ; there are eight scales immediately in front of the anus of nearly equal size.

Colour. The head, back, and upper part of the tail is of a bronze colour, with numerous spots of black ; these spots are more abundant, and somewhat larger upon the upper part of the tail ; there is a row of white spots extending along the side of the neck and body as far as the extremity of the tail ; a broad black band passes along the side of the body, and one immediately behind the orbit as far as the posterior extremities, becoming indistinct upon the tail ; immediately below this is a white narrow vitta, commencing near the anterior extremity of the orbit and terminating in a line with the inferior extremity of the forearm when placed in contact with the side of the body ; under surface of chin, throat, abdomen and extremities of a light silvery gray colour, slightly tinged with green ; a number of small conglomerated spots of a black colour are observed upon the chin.

Dimensions.

	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Lines.</i>
Length of head, - - - - -	0	7
Greatest breadth posteriorly, - - - - -	0	3½
Length of body, - - - - -	1	9
Length of tail, - - - - -	3	4
“ anterior extremities, - - - - -	0	9
“ posterior, “ - - - - -	1	0

Habitat.—Liberia, W. Africa. This species was presented to

me by my friend Dr. W. Blanding. It resembles, if my memory be correct, (not having the work now by me,) a South African species described by Dumeril and Bibron, but I believe it to be distinct. The description is taken from a specimen preserved in spirits.

Genus *IXALUS*, Dum. and Bibron.

I. concolor. Head large, triangular, flattened above, snout slightly rounded, nostrils small, situated very near the mouth; eyes large, rather prominent; tympanum small but distinct, opening of the mouth of moderate size, tongue oblong-ovate, notched posteriorly, teeth in the upper jaw very numerous, small, of equal size; palatine teeth wanting; posterior nares rather large, rounded; eustachian foramina of nearly equal size as the nares, but less distinctly circular; extremities slender; fingers depressed, of moderate size, slightly palmated; terminal pellets circular, tubercles distinct, but not remarkably prominent, toes slender, palmated, terminal phalanges not included within the membrane; disks small; tubercles but slightly developed; skin smooth, except upon the abdomen, where it is granulated.

Colour. Body, head, and extremities of a uniform light chocolate colour; jaws and throat of a dirty white; abdomen and under surface of extremities dark chocolate.

Dimensions.

	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Lines.</i>
Length of head, - - - - -	0	4
Greatest breadth, - - - - -	0	3½
Length of head and body, - - - - -	0	10
“ posterior extremities to extremity of fourth toe, - - - - -	1	3½
“ anterior to extremity of longest finger, - - - - -	0	5½

Habitat.—Liberia, W. Africa. Specimen in Mus. Acad.

Genus *LEPTOPHIS*, Bell.

L. gracilis. Head large, rather broad, flattened, slightly depressed in front, covered with nine plates exclusive of the rostral

and the two anterior orbital, which extend upon the top of the head; rostral plate large, triangular, rounded in front, its apex projecting backwards a short distance toward the two anterior frontal plates; anterior frontal rather large, quadrangular; posterior irregularly quadrilateral, extending upon the side of the head, where they are in contact with the anterior orbital, the loreal and the nasal plates; vertical plate pentagonal, much broader in front, pointed behind; supra-orbital irregularly quadrilateral, smooth, convex above, projecting very slightly over the eye; occipital large, pentagonal; nasal plates ten in number with the nostril placed between them; but one anterior orbital plate, irregular in shape, much broader above; posterior frontal two in number, small, the upper the larger of the two; frenal region very slightly grooved; there are nine plates upon the upper jaw, the seventh the largest, the fifth and sixth going to form the inferior margin of the orbit; tongue long, bifid, enclosed in a sheath at its base, two rows of teeth in the upper jaw, nostrils large, placed near the snout, immediately behind the canthus rostralis, which is well marked, but much less distinct than in the preceding species; body long, slender, covered with quadrangular scales, strongly carinated both upon the back and sides; the inferior row is the largest; abdomen flattened, tail long and slender, tapering to a point, flattened inferiorly. Abdom. scuta 159, subcaud. 153.

Colour. Head, body, and tail grass-green above; abdomen and under part of tail of a lighter colour, approaching to milky white upon the neck; a dark coloured vitta extends on each side of the flattened surface of the abdomen, from near the neck to the anus.

Dimensions.

	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Lines.</i>
Length of head, - - - - -	0	9
Greatest breadth, - - - - -	0	5
Breadth between the orbits posteriorly, -	0	4
“ “ “ anteriorly, -	0	3
Length of body, - . - - -	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	0
“ tail, - - - - -	14 (Fr.)	0
Greatest circumference, - - - - -	0	13

Habitat. Liberia, W. Africa.

L. Kirtlandii. Head long, narrow, covered above with ten plates ; rostral plate heptagonal, flattened above where it joins the two anterior frontal and the nasal plates ; anterior frontal of moderate size, pentagonal ; posterior frontal large, irregularly quadrilateral ; vertical plate long, pentagonal, much broader in front than behind ; supra-orbital plates large, irregularly quadrilateral, smooth convex, above, projecting over the eye so as to give it a threatening appearance ; occipital plates pentagonal, broader in front ; nasal plates two in number, with the nostril placed between them ; two small plates between the nasal and the anterior orbital plate ; anterior orbital plate large, a portion of it appearing upon the top of the head, between the supra-orbital and the posterior parietal plates ; canthus rostralis very distinct ; frenal region on that portion of the side of the head between the eye and the nostril deeply grooved ; posterior orbital plates three in number ; there are ten superior labial plates ; the fourth and fifth going to form the inferior margin of the orbit ; eye very large ; tongue long, bifid at the extremity, enclosed in a sheath at its base ; two rows of teeth in the upper jaw ; body very long, slender, covered with oblong, narrow scales, which are smooth ; tail long and tapering to a point.

Colour. Head of a bronze colour above and upon the sides ; a band of white extends from the snout as far as the posterior angle of the upper jaw ; body of an obscure brownish colour above, clouded with black ; the abdomen presents very much the same dusky colour as the body, except at its anterior part where it approaches to a dirty white. Abdom. scuta —, subcaud. 154.

Dimensions.

		<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Lines.</i>
Length of head, -	- - - -	0	9
Greatest breadth, -	- - - -	0	3½
Length of body, -	- - - -	15¼ (Fr.)	0
“ “ tail, -	- - - -	9	10

Habitat. Liberia, W. Africa. I have named this species in honour of Dr. Kirtland, of Cincinnati, a distinguished naturalist, who has devoted much attention to the natural history of this country.